

FROM THE LAND



Easement From Griswold Family Given To TNC

In July, seven members of the Griswold family gave The Nature Conservancy a conservation easement on a parcel of valuable waterfront land at Great Island Marsh in Old Lyme. This very generous agreement helps protect critical habitat along the Black Hall River.

For 20 years TNC has been actively working to protect the marsh and tidal ecosystem in this area. It is significant wildlife habitat, particularly for marsh birds, containing a whole system of relatively unspoiled barrier beaches, marshes and backwater channels associated with the mouth of the Connecticut River.

Much of this tidal habitat is covered with salt hay or high water grass. Found in relatively pure stands, it serves as important nesting and feeding area for marsh birds like egrets, herons, rails, and other waterfowl, as well as kestrel, osprey and northern harriers. One good indicator of the "health" of this site is that osprey nesting in the area has been on the rise. Almost decimated in the early 1950's by widespread use of DDT, this beautiful predatory bird is now sighted more regularly.

Our thanks in appreciation of this significant gift go to the Griswold family, specifically: John S. Griswold, Susan G. Schavoir, Ursula G. LaMotte, John S. Griswold, Jr., Evan S. Griswold, Edward L. Griswold and Charles A. Griswold. The family went to great lengths to make this gift a reality, in fact, the easement travelled all the way to Japan

for one signature. Through the easement, the Griswold's volunteer to restrict their actions on this valuable coastal property in recognition of its ecological importance.

"The Griswold's were among the early settlers along the banks of the Connecticut River and have for nine generations served as guardians and protectors of this fragile estuarine ecosystem" commented Executive Director Les

Corey. "Every person in Connecticut benefits from the vision and generosity demonstrated by the Griswold's, through their permanent protection of Griswold Point in 1974 and now extending that protection to the associated wetlands and valuable uplands preserved by this conservation easement."

Donations of conservation easements by land owners is an important way that concerned individuals can work with the Conser-

vancy to save critical habitat. An easement means the owner has taken positive, legal steps to ensure that the integrity of the land will remain natural forever, while still retaining ownership rights to the land. Since these are transferrable agreements, the easement will remain in effect in perpetuity, monitored by TNC.

Conservation easements are an effective land protection tool. The Connecticut Chapter currently has 71 easements throughout the state. If you would like more information, please contact the Connecticut Chapter office.

(Photo by Tom Beers)



A LEGEND LOST

I've never received such an avalanche of mail and phone calls as I have had in response to the July 10th tornado calamity at Cathedral Pines. From requests for ship masts, to heart-rending accounts of weddings amongst those legendary trees, to pleas from neighbors to reduce the potential fire risk posed by the dying vegetation—this mid-summer incident has forced me to pause and take careful stock of our stewardship goals for Cathedral Pines, as well as our responsibility as a landowner and neighbor of Cornwall Village.

As forest land, Cathedral Pines was no wilderness, but it was one of the finest relic stands of old growth pines in the northeast. Its vegetative research and educational value is highly regarded by scientists and naturalists across the region. As a refuge from my daily routine, Cathedral Pines was my favorite Conservancy preserve. I have many fond memories of hours spent contemplating the universe amongst those towering giants. We all feel a sense of loss in the wake of the blowdown.

Yet, this phenomena was inevitable. Old growth white pine is highly susceptible to wind damage and researchers have speculated that a similar catastrophic event may have previously occurred at Cathedral Pines.

Now that the pines are down, one may legitimately question why the Conservancy should maintain this land in a relatively undisturbed manner in view of the other desirable uses for the wood. Our response is that for researchers studying the functions and structure of vegetation, tracts of undisturbed and untouched vegetation or "natural areas" are very important to their studies. Most landowners manipulate the vegetation on their properties, so natural areas are a critical reference point to scientists.

Cathedral Pines, as a natural area, now provides an opportunity to advance our understanding of forest revegetation in an undisturbed old growth blowdown. Undisturbed by humans for nearly 300 years, there are few other forest lands in Connecticut



that can match that claim. In fact, following the hurricane of 1938, many stands of old-growth pine and other species were blown down and salvaged, with none remaining today for scientific research and observation.

Historical references indicate that catastrophic winds have repeatedly influenced the composition of forests. Scientists need a few places like Cathedral Pines to be maintained as natural areas to better understand the history and future of our forests. Maintenance of a significant portion of Cathedral Pines as a natural area, while also meeting our responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of our neighbors in Cornwall, is a primary objective guiding our action plan for Cathedral Pines.

I believe our plan (detailed elsewhere in this newsletter) is a sound one that will stand the test of time. Historically, this event may be viewed less as a legend lost and more as a natural area in dynamic transition. Nonetheless, it still leaves a lump in my throat.

— Leslie N. Corey
Executive Director

"Cathedral Pines . . . provides an opportunity to advance our understanding of forest revegetation in an undisturbed old growth blowdown. Undisturbed by humans for nearly 300 years, there are few other forest lands in Connecticut that can match that claim."

Conservancy Acquires Parcel On Selden Island

A critical 3 acre parcel on Selden Island in Lyme, adjacent to Selden Island State Park, was acquired in early October.

Located on the southeastern edge of Selden Island and accessible only by boat, the parcel is directly across from our newest Selden Creek preserve, the 101 acres of marshland and shrub swamp forest that the Conservancy dedicated earlier this summer.

This newly-protected property is a tidal wet meadow, containing isolated areas of young silver maples and other flood-plain forest plants. It provides important habitat for migratory waterfowl in both the spring and fall. It was one of the last privately owned inholdings on Selden Island.

At the request of the owners, Elizabeth Putnam and Mary Sutton, who were interested in selling the property quickly, the Conservancy stepped in and acquired the property on behalf of the Department of Environmental Protection. TNC will transfer title to the State at a later date.

This parcel is the Chapter's first project on the island, and almost completes total protection of the island. There are only 17 acres that remain privately held on this remarkable 670 acre island ecosystem.



Conservancy Options Critical Tract In Sharon

In our last issue, we briefly mentioned that the Conservancy had secured an option on an important 55 acre, Housatonic State Forest inholding on Sharon Mine Mountain. Located north of West Cornwall Road in Sharon, the property is near the National Audubon Society's E.W. Miles Wildlife Sanctuary, and lands owned by the National Park Service as part of the Appalachian Trail Corridor.

Rich in wildlife, uncommon species of waterfowl and rare plants are found in nearby marshes, as well as black bear, bobcat, and timber rattlesnakes. The vast amount of protected acres in the area provide the kind of space these large animals require for survival. Common ravens, the large northern relative of the common crow, are returning to this area after an absence of nearly a century. Overall, the protection of this parcel was a major step toward protecting the ecological balance of over 3,300 acres in this area.

Les Corey, Executive Director for the Connecticut Chapter stated, "We are excited by the opportunity to save this parcel because of its size, its strategic location, and because it provides habitat for several rare and endangered species of birds, plants, and animals. We are extremely fortunate to have gained the trust of the six owners who were about to put the land on

the open market. If we hadn't been able to secure this agreement, it might have opened up the possibility of development within the Housatonic State Forest."

Significantly, many other environmental organizations have joined the Conservancy in helping to raise the funds necessary to complete the purchase. The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, the Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands, and the Sharon Land Trust have all pledged their support of this project. With their help, the Conservancy is now in the midst of raising \$150,000 in private donations to complete the purchase.

The Connecticut Chapter is purchasing the property from a group of six sportsmen, represented by George DiScala. TNC will initially fund the purchase of the property through its revolving Land Preservation Fund.

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection will reimburse the Chapter for approximately 50% of the acquisition costs



through funds provided under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program, the State's \$15 million land acquisition fund.

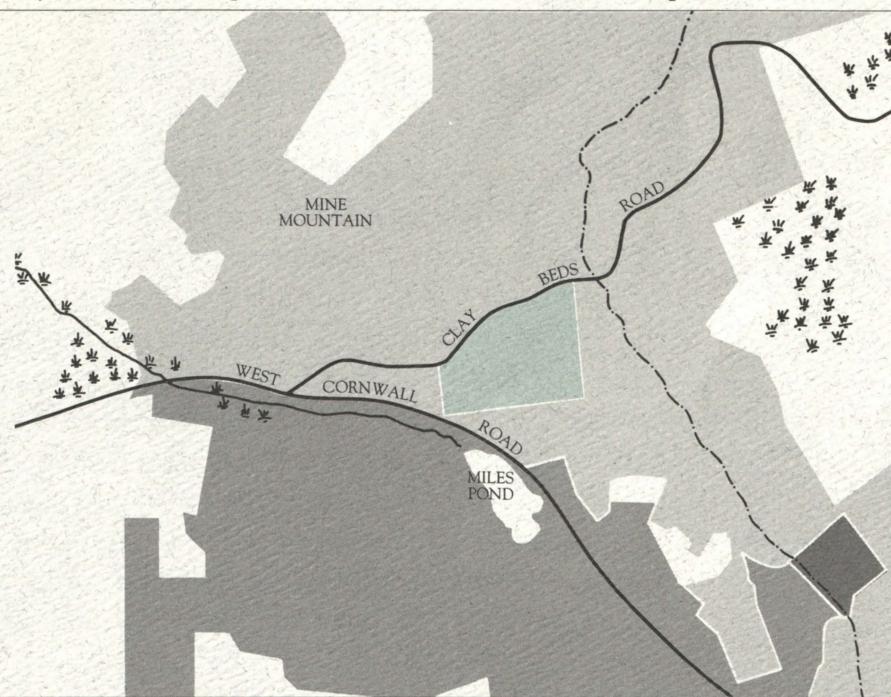
Once the purchase has been completed, the parcel will be added to the Housatonic State Forest. TNC will place deed restrictions on the property and continue to monitor the site to ensure that it will permanently protect the rare species found there.

The Chapter must raise the necessary \$150,000 in private gifts by December 1, 1989. Anyone interested in additional information about this project is encouraged to call Noreen Cullen, Director of Resources, at the Connecticut Chapter.

SHARON, CONNECTICUT

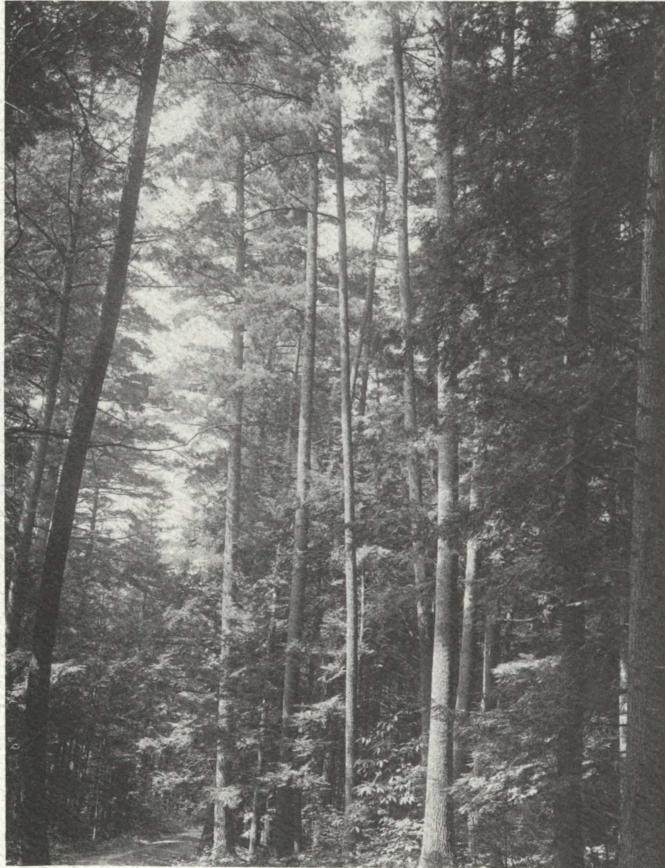
- Proposed Purchase — 55 acres
- Housatonic State Forest
- National Park Service
- National Audubon E.W. Miles Wildlife Sanctuary
- Appalachian Trail

▲ North





Cathedral Pines Leveled By Tornado



WHAT HAPPENED AT CATHEDRAL PINES?



▲ Before: Photo courtesy of Yale School of Forestry. Taken July, 1911 by G. Nichols, this photo shows the view along the road, looking south toward Cornwall.

On Monday, July 10, 1989, strong winds accompanied by at least one tornado (many reports indicate more than one) ripped through The Nature Conservancy's Cathedral Pines Preserve. This storm did extensive damage in the area, passing through Cornwall where it blew down most of the white pine and hemlock found in the Cathedral Pines Preserve. The force of this storm cannot be imagined by anyone who didn't witness it. Telling marks on remaining tree-trunks indicate winds strong enough to actually twist the tops off the trees, many of them several feet in diameter. In about ten minutes, most of the tall majestic pines, some 300 years old, were stacked up like toothpicks.



▲ After: This photo, by comparison, shows the same area off the road after the July storm. Photo by Susan Bahr.



HOW EXTENSIVE IS THE BLOWDOWN?

As seen in the adjacent map, over two thirds of the preserve was affected by the storm. The northern portion of the 42 acre preserve was essentially blown to the ground (approximately 20 to 25 acres). In these acres, most of the trees were snapped off or completely blown over leaving twisted and broken trunks and up-turned root systems. These upheaved roots will eventually yield a "pillow-and-cradle" topography in the area.

The southern and eastern areas exhibited slightly less damage, with one grove of tall trees left standing on the easternmost top of the hill.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

The Conservancy's primary focus is the preservation of natural areas. Our goal, therefore, is to leave Cathedral Pines as intact as possible, allowing the forest to revegetate naturally, rather than a "managed" regeneration. However, due to the preserve's close proximity to the Town of Cornwall, we have responsibilities as neighbors that we must act on, especially in minimizing any potential risk of fire as the fallen pines dry out.

As a first step in our decision process, TNC requested the involvement of many forestry experts, entomologists, plant ecologists and fire specialists, each of whom gave us valuable insights. We also met with officials and residents from Cornwall to understand their concerns.

Next, members of our Science and Stewardship Committee reviewed information from the experts and town residents, and took a field trip to Cornwall to get a first-hand look at the pines. Based on this input, TNC's Board of Trustees approved removal of plant material from around the perimeter of the preserve, leaving the center of the preserve untouched for future scientific research.

Exact dimensions of this cleared area are in the process of being worked out with the town, but we estimate that the area will average 50 feet in width. We hope to complete the work during the fall and winter months while the ground is still hard and can withstand further disruption.

CAN I VISIT CATHEDRAL PINES?

Cathedral Pines is currently closed to the public. The area is posted because of hazardous conditions, and to minimize any potential risk of accidental fires. If people want to view the pines, it is possible to drive by the edge of the preserve and view the damage safely from the road.

Once conditions in the preserve have had time to stabilize, we hope to reopen the Blue Trail that led through the pines. We are also investigating placement of educational materials at the site, to explain what happened and what may occur in the future.

WHY IS CATHEDRAL PINES SO IMPORTANT?

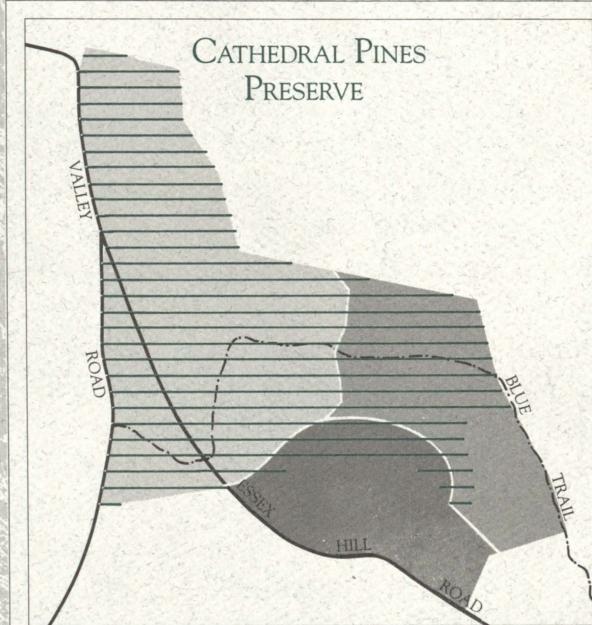
Blowdowns such as the one at Cathedral Pines, are a natural event and are part of the normal forest lifecycle in the northeast. However, this is only one aspect of a forest lifecycle and there is still so much we don't know.

Researchers from all over New England and some from as far away as Colorado, have expressed interest in coming to the pines to study the area. Its importance as a natural area of national significance remains, even though the trees may no longer be standing. This forest is unique in that the stand was largely untouched by humans for the last 200-300 years. It can still teach us a great deal if we continue to maintain the site in as undisturbed a condition as possible.

HOW CAN I HELP?

It is anticipated that stewardship of Cathedral Pines will be quite expensive and time consuming. The preserve currently has no stewardship funds. Donations to aid with the clean-up efforts and preparation of educational materials would be very helpful. We will need to hire many experts to assist with stewardship.

Additionally, we would like to develop educational materials about the pines and future of the preserve. Volunteers interested in helping to put together educational pamphlets or an interpretive display on the pines should call the Connecticut Chapter. 

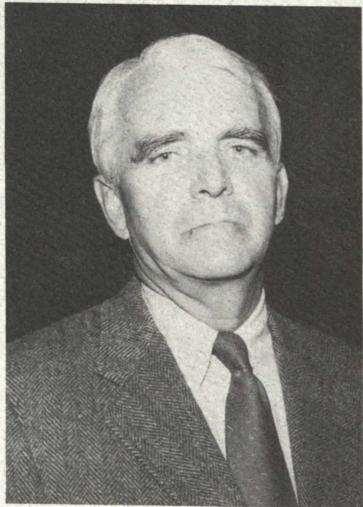


WELCOME

ROBERT M. SCHNEIDER,

OUR NEW CHAIRMAN

Bob Schneider is a retired Vice President of the Xerox Corporation where he also served as President of the Xerox Foundation. In addition to his TNC activity, he is Vice Chairman of Volunteer, The National Center, a Washington based organization dedicated to increasing and improving the role of volunteers in America. He also serves as a member of the Board of Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Since its inception, our society has relied heavily on "volunteerism", the willingness of individuals to give of themselves for causes they believe will help sustain and improve the quality of life in our contemporary environment. The members of the Board of Trustees are all volunteers, each of them fulfilling their sense of a need to participate and contribute to, in this case, the attainment of the Chapter's goals and objectives. Your Board members, however, go beyond the simple definition of volunteering. They are committed to making our program effective, with a spirit of involvement that has significantly contributed to the success this Chapter has enjoyed over the past few years.

I recognize and accept the responsibilities attendant to the Chairmanship and look forward to working with the trustees, staff, and our members to continue to achieve our ambitious but attainable goals.

— Robert M. Schneider
Chairman

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer, A. Eugene Billings, presented the 1988-89 financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 1989. The total cash balance in accounts managed by the Connecticut Chapter equalled \$2,311,285, of which \$401,600 is unrestricted. This includes all land protection, land stewardship and revolving land preservation funds.

Mr. Billings reported that the Chapter had outstanding financial obligations totalling \$2,650,888 for lands under contract, including funds borrowed from our Land Preservation Fund to purchase properties. Against this amount, \$251,000 has been raised and another \$2,223,373 is due from the State of Connecticut on a matching basis under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program. In addition, the Connecticut Chapter has options on, or is currently negotiating for, properties worth over \$3 million.

Our Chapter membership is at an all time high of 14,300 households, an 18% increase, and we have 1,150 acorn members, a 34% increase over last year. Any member interested in reviewing these financial accounts should contact the Connecticut Chapter office.

YEAR-IN-REVIEW

Executive Director, Les Corey, opened his year-in-review slide presentation with praise for the work that the Chapter as a whole, staff and trustees, have accomplished during the past year.

The Chapter completed 11 land projects this past year — a total of 370 acres worth over \$3 million were saved. The direct cost to the Chapter was \$2,056,000. In total, \$1.3 million in private contributions were raised, for both land preservation and operating expenses, making 1989 a landmark year for the Connecticut Chapter.

We extend our thanks to all who made last year so successful, and move on to even greater challenges this year.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Susan Cooley, member of the Board of Trustees, gave the nominating report. Three new members were elected to the Board of Trustees.

Dr. William Cronon, New Haven (3 year term), Professor of History and Environmental Studies at Yale University; Rhodes Scholar and McArthur Fellow; Vice President for the Connecticut Fund for the Environment.

Mary Ann Dickinson, Middletown (3 year term), Manager of Government Affairs for the South Central Regional Water Authority. Consultant on environmental government activities for DEP and CEQ since 1971; U.S. Park Service consultant to the United Kingdom on Land Use issues; Treasurer of Middlesex Land Trust and Member of the City of Middletown Urban Forestry Board.

John A.T. Wilson, North Canton, Certified Life Underwriter, Director of Hartford Chapter, CLU Association; Member Board of Trustees of Kingswood-Oxford School; Owner, Business Planning Associates; President, Executive Committee of Connecticut General.

For re-election as trustees for 2 year terms by membership: Peter B. Cooper, Alexander S. Gardner, Evan S. Griswold, and Dr. Peter Rich.

Trustees who have retired from the Board include Doris Walker and Joan Poster, who were both thanked by Peter Cooper for their contributions to the Conservancy.



◀ **Les Corey**, Director, shown with awardees. From left to right: Les Corey, Lisa Hawley, David Sutherland, Mary Ann Dickinson, Steve Grant, Susanne Daley (on behalf of Walter R. Miller, Jr.), David Bodznick, Dana Waring.

Officers elected by Trustees are:
Chairman: Robert M. Schneider
Vice Chairs: Rufus Barringer, Dr. Sarah Richards, Austin D. Barney
Secretary: William D. Ross
Treasurer: A. Eugene Billings

AWARDS

Certificates of Special Recognition were presented to **Lisa Hawley** and **Connecticut Public Television**, for their production of "Connecticut Endangered"; to **Mary Ann Dickinson**, for her years of dedicated environmental service; to the **Town of Glastonbury**, for their help and contribution to the Glastonbury Highlands project; to **Steve Grant**, for his journalistic excellence as environmental reporter for **The Hartford Courant**; to **Kongsut Land Trust**, for their work on the Glastonbury Highlands project; to **Walter R. Miller, Jr.** for initiating First Constitution Bank's "Save Our Sound" project; to **Nancy Murray**, for her work at the Natural Diversity Data Base; to **David Sutherland** for his skillful lobbying

efforts assuring passage of the Endangered Species Act.

White Oak Awards were presented to **David Bodznick**, for his volunteered services in giving Connecticut River Slide shows; to **Thomas F. Harper**, for his volunteered work in developing a newspaper public service announcement; to **George W. Jewett**, for his volunteered efforts in hand-carving preserve designation signs; to **Peter Stern**, for his volunteered leadership in Glastonbury and on a state level.

GUEST SPEAKER

John C. Gordon, Dean of Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, a featured speaker at the event, spoke on "Preserving the Environment: From Spare-Time to Big-Time". Gordon stressed that environmental matters have emerged today to be major issues of personal, political, and economical interest.

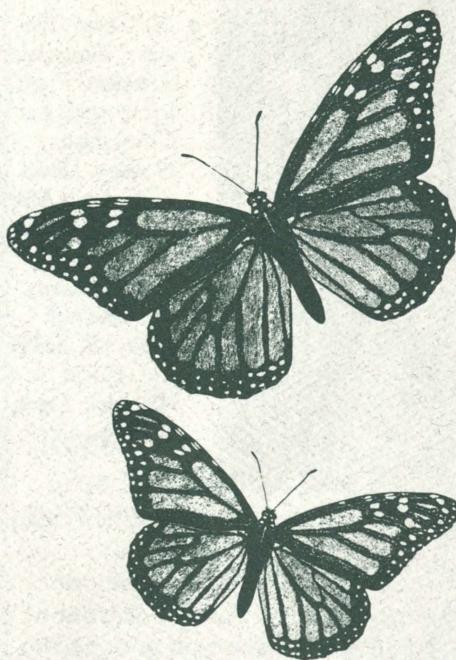
"If we are to be more effective", he said, "we can't rely on the work of environmental organizations alone. Everyone will be called on to do their part to help preserve our remaining important ecosystems".

FIELD TRIPS

When all else was finished, and despite the rain, many of our members accompanied staff and volunteer leaders on hikes and canoe trips to nearby Conservancy preserves. Hikes this year were to Turtle Creek, Griswold Point, Ame's Rock, Chapman's Pond, Lord's Cove, and Burnham Brook. Canoe trips set out for Lord's Cove and Great Island Marsh.



◀ **Peter Cooper**, outgoing Chairman of the Board receiving an award from Executive Director **Les Corey**, thanking him for all his efforts on behalf of the Connecticut Chapter, especially his six years of service as Chairman.



Plover Population Doubled!

This was a banner year for piping plovers. Thirty-four pairs fledged 61 young throughout the state. Most exciting were the results from Griswold Point, a Conservancy preserve in Old Lyme. Three pairs of plovers produced 13 fledged juveniles, exceeded only by the 15 young from 10 plovers at Long Beach in Stratford, a wonderful accomplishment for a species that came close to being driven from our shores completely!

Our summer warden, Zee Sarr, contributed greatly to the plover's comeback. Zee protected them from high waters and predators with a conscientious surveillance program.

Appropriate stewardship, federal protection and cooperation of the people of Connecticut should continue to contribute to future increases in plovers along the shores of Long Island Sound. ▶

A Glory Of Nature

The monarch is unusual among butterflies in what it does during the winter. Most species, in areas where winters are cold, endure the season in the egg stage or as a mummy-like pupa. In other species the adults or larvae overwinter in a place protected from the most severe weather. But eastern monarchs behave more like many birds; they migrate south for the winter and start north the following spring. Unlike birds, monarchs require two or more generations to complete the return to the summer breeding grounds.

It's a long trip, up to 3,000 miles for some monarchs from where they were hatched. Though they begin the journey with enough stored fat to fly for about 100 hours, this will not be enough for the entire trip. Consequently, monarchs frequently stop to sip nectar from goldenrod, dandelion and other flowers, resting every night in groves of trees.

On the wintering grounds, monarchs create one of the most spectacular displays in the natural world. In some areas they cluster into immense masses, covering trees with a shimmering blanket of orange. The best known of these aggregations are in California and have been a tourist attraction for years. California monarchs make a short flight to these coastal groves.

The largest and most impressive winter monarch colonies were discovered only recently in the volcanic mountains of Michoacan in central Mexico. After decades of searching, a Canadian researcher located their secret roosting place in 1975. Tagging thousands of monarchs on their northern breeding grounds, he followed their migration path and eventually



found this important overwinter site.

By spring, all of the travel-worn migrants have died. When the next migration begins in fall, it will be the third or fourth generation descendants of the previous migrants that will make the long journey south.

How do millions of fragile butterflies manage to travel thousands of miles over totally unfamiliar terrain to a specific wintering site? Nobody really knows, but year-after-year the monarchs faithfully return to the same wintering roosting areas used by their ancestors. It may take many more years of study before we begin to unravel these mysteries.

We must also be aware that along the way, the eastern monarchs do not recognize political boundaries. To them, their wintering areas in Mexico serve one purpose, to survive the winter, and their breeding grounds in the United States and Canada serve another. Both are critical for their continued survival and comprise the monarch's "universe." Also, both areas need to be safeguarded if we are to protect these glorious creatures of nature.

By working in partnership, as the International Program of The Nature Conservancy and other conservation groups do, we hope to ensure continued success to migrating monarchs, no matter where they happen to be in their migration path. We can all work to overcome the limitation of political boundaries, especially when it interferes with the preservation of a natural process and the species who depend on migration for their survival. ♣

Special thanks to Dr. Charles Remington of Yale for his editorial assistance.



Fairfield County Inventory Yields Locations of Rare Plants and Animals

With the field season drawing to a close, the first inventory conducted by TNC's Connecticut Chapter in Fairfield County is a success. Approximately 30 new locations for rare plants, animals or unusual ecological communities, and several previously undocumented, yet significant ecological sites were discovered.

Dave Norris, project zoologist, and Tracy LaProvidenza, inventory volunteer, were very successful in uncovering five new populations of the slimy salamander (*Pllethodon glutinosus*). Dave also found four populations of the rare northern metalmark butterfly (*Lepelisca borealis*).

Margaret Ardwain, botanist and Juliana Barrett, plant ecologist and inventory team leader, uncovered a magnificent limestone outcrop. This is a perfect habitat for the rare fern they found, the wall-rue spleenwort (*Asplenium ruta-muraria*) and a rare sedge (*Carex eburnea*).

Other exciting finds of the summer included a healthy population of lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*) — only the second

known population in the state;

a beautiful field of Indian paint-brush (*Castilleja coccinea*) and a northern white cedar swamp (*Thuja occidentalis*), rare in Connecticut and an exciting find.

Once identified, it is time for summarizing the collected data and disseminating this critical information to the Natural Diversity Data Base at DEP, public planning agencies and the scientific community. Protection priorities will now be established for these natural areas.

The cost of conducting this research, \$55,000 for Fairfield County, is expensive. The future existence of some of these rare plants and animals, however, depends on our ability to know where they exist so that we can take steps to save them.

We appreciate all the donations made in support of this inventory, and would especially like to thank the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company and the Meserve Fund for the generous donations they made in support of this inventory. However, we have only reached the mid-point in our fundraising goals, and welcome any assistance.

Given the success of this inventory, our hope is that we will be able to expand the program to other counties in Connecticut. For further information, please contact Juliana Barrett,

ecologist at the Connecticut Chapter.

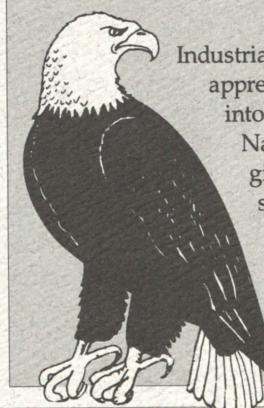


▲ *Asarum canadense*
wild ginger



▲ *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*
walking fern

GIVE AN EAGLE THE BUSINESS!



Industrial sites, office buildings, any surplus appreciated real property can be turned into a conservation contribution at The Nature Conservancy. Find out how your gift of real estate can help the Conservancy provide shelter for wildlife . . . and for your income. Write or call our field office to learn more about "trade lands" today.

Legislative Priorities For 1990

Although it's early in the legislative season, it's not too early for us to begin planning for what we would like to see happen during 1990. Action on the following TNC legislative priorities is already underway.

Open Space Bonding: We want to ensure continued approval of Governor O'Neill's five-year annual commitment of \$15 million for the state's Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program and \$5 million for the Municipal Grants-in-Aid program. We will support continued funding for the Farmland Preservation Program and will also hope to increase the bond authorization for acquisition of conservation land along the Connecticut River.

Department of Environmental Protection Budget: We feel it is critical to conservation efforts to add a permanent data handler position for the Natural Diversity Data Base, to be sure rare species are catalogued for future preservation efforts.

Capital gains tax exemption: We will work for a state capital gains tax exemption for property owners selling their land to the state, a municipality

or to an IRS designated non-profit organization for permanent land preservation. The 1989 Connecticut General Assembly approved a substantial increase in the capital gains tax applying it to 100% of the capital gain. Most landowners are likely to ask a higher price for their land to recover the difference, thereby increasing the cost of land acquisition to the state and to non-profit organizations.

Amendment to Public Act 490: Our approach is to advocate giving municipalities advance notice when landowners, who have received preferential tax assessment for farm, forest, or open space land, decide to sell their land. This legislation, which was proposed but failed to pass last year, would also allow the town to assign its right to negotiate and enter into a sales contract to a non-profit corporation such as a land trust.

New land preservation tool: Section Five of Public Act 89-370 specifies that any municipality may establish a non-lapsing Land Acquisition Fund, to be used for open space, recreation, or housing, funded by up to 2 mils of the local property tax. ♦

Our Wish List

There are many ways to contribute to the protection of Connecticut's natural areas. If you can help us acquire any of the following badly needed items, please contact the Connecticut Chapter.

- VCR and color television
- Large refrigerator (in good condition)
- Wooden Bookcases

Thank You's

On behalf of everyone here at Chapter Headquarters, we want to extend our most sincere thanks to Society For Savings for the major donation of quality office furniture. We deeply appreciate this gift.

Thanks to Mr. Salafia, who donated a TI-30 hand calculator, we are now much faster in our calculations!

The Nature Conservancy would like to thank the Youth Group from Thames Valley Council for Community Action for their work at Pike-Marshall Preserve in Ledyard. The group, led by Kim Bialek, cleared and maintained trails and built a footbridge over a stream. Stewardship work such as this is critical in maintaining the quality of TNC preserves and natural areas.

From The Land ♦

Published quarterly for the members of the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

Designer: Pollard Design
Contributing Writers: Connecticut Chapter and Trustees



▲ Connecticut Chapter Director, Les Corey, and Director of Land Protection, Carolie Evans are pictured here presenting an award to Felice Marnicki at the Bailey's Ravine dedication ceremony. Felice had generously sold the land to the Conservancy at less than fair market value, in loving memory of Helena E. Bailey Spencer. The Bailey family had owned the ravine for over two hundred years. (Photo Courtesy of S. Bahr)



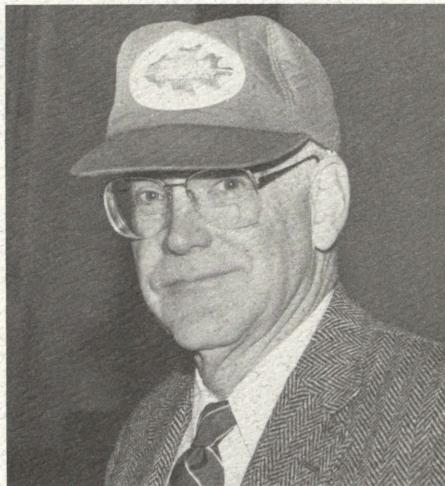
In a September ceremony at the Glastonbury Town Hall, Les Corey and Carolie Evans gave Special Recognition to the Town of Glastonbury for all their assistance and generous contribution towards the Glastonbury Highlands project. Also presented was a White Oak Award to Mr. Peter Stern for his volunteer efforts on behalf of the Glastonbury project. Dana Waring, President of the Kongscut Land Trust was present for the event having received an award of Special Recognition at the Annual Meeting in appreciation of the Kongscut Land Trust's commitment to the same project. Pictured from left to right are Carolie Evans, Peter Stern, Les Corey, Sonja Googins, Glastonbury Town Council Chairwoman, Sue-Ellen Loeser, President, Glastonbury Sub-Chapter, Dana Waring, and Patricia Low, Glastonbury Town Minority Leader. (Photo Courtesy of S. Bahr)

Conservancy President Steps Down

On June 2, 1989, Frank D. Boren, President of the Nature Conservancy since January 1987, informed the Board of Governors of his intention to step down no later than the end of this year.

During Boren's tenure, the Conservancy has exhibited unprecedented growth. Membership has nearly doubled to over half a million and more than a million acres of ecologically significant land was protected.

Numerous partnerships were formed, with corporations, government agencies, and other nonprofit groups including World Wildlife Fund and Ducks Unlimited. Boren also expanded the Conservancy's mission to focus protection efforts on large natural ecosystems throughout the United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America.



Frank Boren has accomplished a great deal for The Nature Conservancy and we will miss his leadership and enthusiasm. We wish him well in his next endeavors and look forward to his remaining active in the Conservancy in a volunteer capacity. *

December 3 (Sunday),
Early Winter at Katharine
Ordway Preserve, Weston

Enjoy a winter's morning in the Preserve. Although the trees are dormant there is still a lot happening in the forest. Leader, Fred Moore.

January 27 (Saturday)
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Eagle Watch, Newtown

Join Conservancy staff and other members at the Shepaug Dam Observation Site to observe eagles at their winter nesting grounds.

Reservations may be made starting December 20 by calling The Department of Environment Protection at 566-7195. Please call promptly as permits are given out to the general public on a first come first serve basis.



The Nature Conservancy At Work

Nationally Connecticut

Total Projects	8,482	582
Total Acres Saved	3,813,884 *	18,734
Tracts Registered (acres)	—	5,094
Tradeland Tracts Received	964	13
Members	526,201	14,056
Corporate Associates	285	15

* Includes Registered Properties

The Nature Conservancy

Connecticut Chapter
55 High Street
Middletown, CT 06457-3788
(203) 344-0716

National Office: 1815 North Lynn St.,
Arlington, VA 22209

Connecticut Chapter Staff

Leslie N. Corey, Jr., Vice President, Director
Noreen P. Cullen, Director of Resources
Carolyn K. Evans, Director of Land Protection
Beth P. Lapin, Director of Science and Stewardship
Dorothy McCluskey, Director of Government Relations

Mark H. McEathron, Director of Registry

Pat Anderson, Executive Assistant

Rachel Aptekar, Stewardship Assistant

Susan Bahr, Development Coordinator

Juliana Barrett, Field Biologist/Fairfield County Inventory Leader

Laura Langlois, Administrative Assistant

Dorothy A. Millen, Development/Membership Assistant

Jeffrey Nixon, Bookkeeper/Computer Support

Lesley Olsen, Land Protection Assistant

Polly Richter, Finance Manager

Xandy Wilson, Office Manager

Board of Trustees

Robert M. Schneider, Chairman, Lyme
Austin D. Barney, II, Vice Chairman, West Simsbury

Rufus Barringer, Vice Chairman, Hadlyme

Dr. Sarah Richards, Vice Chairman, Guilford

A. Eugene Billings, Treasurer, Norfolk

William D. Ross, Secretary, Riverside

Randolph K. Byers, Jr., Wilton

Susan D. Cooley, Middletown

Peter B. Cooper, Bethany

Dr. William J. Cronon, New Haven

Mary Ann Dickinson, Middletown

Alexander S. Gardner, New Canaan

Evans S. Griswold, Old Lyme

Mary Hope Lewis, Greenwich

Dr. Peter Rich, Storrs

Stanton W. Simm Jr., Stonington

Mrs. Bruce S. Smart, Fairfield

Ogden Tanner, New Canaan

John A. Wilson, North Canton

Committee for the Connecticut River

Alexander S. Gardner, Chairman

Kenneth B. Andersen, Commissioner of Agriculture, State of Connecticut

Diana Atwood, President, Connecticut River Foundation

Leslie Carothers, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection, State of Connecticut

David Coffin, Chairman Dexter Corporation

Christopher J. Dodd, United States Senator

T. Mitchell Ford, retired Chief Executive Officer, Emhart Manufacturing Company

Sam Gejdenson, United States Congressman

Norwich R. Goodspeed, Chairman Emeritus, Peoples Bank

Dr. John C. Gordon, Dean, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Mrs. Astrid T. Hanzalek, Chairman, Connecticut River Watershed Council

Nancy Johnson, United States Congresswoman

Worth Loomis, President, Hartford Graduate Center

Bruce Morrison, United States Congressman

Peter Neill, Director, South Street Seaport Museum, N.Y.

Dr. William Niering, Connecticut College Arboretum, Research Director

Donald C. O'Brian Jr., National Audubon Society

W. Kent Olson, President, American Rivers

William O'Neill, Governor, State of Connecticut

Leigh H. Perkins, President, Orvis Inc.

Dr. Roger Tory Peterson, Ornithologist, Author, Artist

John G. Rowland, United States Congressman

John B. Sias, President, ABC Television Network Group, Capitol Cities, ABC, Inc.

Andrew Siegler, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Champion International Corporation

Dr. John K. Terres, Ornithologist, Author, Audubon Encyclopedia

Corporate Advisory Board

Donald W. Davis, Chairman, The Stanley Works

Bartlett Barnes, Publisher Emeritus, Bristol Press

David E. A. Carson, President, People's Bank

Frank J. Coyle, Former Chairman, Putnam Trust Company

David L. Coffin, President, Dexter Corporation

Walter R. Miller, Jr., First Constitution Bank, President, CEO

William M. Raveis, President, William M. Raveis, Inc.

John B. Sias, President, ABC Television Network Group, Capitol Cities, ABC Inc.

Francis M. White, Chairman, Bank of Boston, Connecticut

Frank E. Wolcott III, Vice President, Investments, A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.

Connecticut Gearing Up For Earth Day 20 Celebration

In 1990, Connecticut will celebrate the 20th anniversary of Earth Day.

The annals of environmental history tell us that April 22, 1970, the original Earth Day, touched off a wave of environmental concern that continues to reverberate throughout this country and the world. It suddenly dawned on the collective consciousness of the nation that the resources which we were in such a rush to exploit were finite, and that our haste to consume them would alter the natural world in unthinkable ways.

Connecticut Earth Day 20 is being coordinated by an official steering committee and an honorary board. Chaired by Governor William O'Neill with Joanne Woodward and Dan W. Lufkin serving as co-chairs, there is a lot of support for this event. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by Leslie Carothers, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner, and Rita L. Bowlby, a Farmington marketing-communications executive and appointed board member of the Governor's Environment 2000 Committee. Dunham Barney, Vice Chairman of TNC's Connecticut Chapter, and Les Corey, Executive Director, are both serving on the Earth Day 20 Steering Committee.

Connecticut Earth Day 20 activities will run throughout the week of April 21-28, 1990 and includes concerts, Earth Day flag-raising events, hikes, river clean-ups, tree plantings, and various environmental education programs throughout the state. It's anticipated that activities will be planned in each and every community throughout Connecticut. We hope that the spirit of Earth Day, the feeling that together we can make a difference, will be revitalized and be instilled in the next generation with the same passion that fueled the movement for the past 20 years.

For more information, please contact Sylvia V.S. Abbate, Executive Director, Connecticut Earth Day 20, Inc., 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT 06511; telephone (203) 865-ERTH.



EARTH DAY 20
CONNECTICUT
1970 - 1990

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #1300
HARTFORD, CT

From the Land
The Nature Conservancy
Connecticut Chapter
55 High Street
Middletown, CT 06457-3788

Please contact us if you are receiving duplicate mailings.